

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are now present in this application.

Claim 1 has been amended and claim 3 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed in the above-identified application on June 14, 2007. **Notification of receipt of this IDS is respectfully requested.** It does seem that the two documents cited in this IDS have been considered by the Examiner.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Okamoto et al, US Patent 5,877,829 in view of Kubo et al, US Patent 6,195,140. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The amended claim 1 has the limitation "wherein said liquid crystal panel has a pair of glass substrates sandwiching a liquid crystal layer and polarizer arranged on each glass substrate, wherein said diffusing optical element is arranged between one glass substrate and said polarizer arranged on said one glass substrate.". Support for the limitation can be found on Fig. 6, for example (shown below).

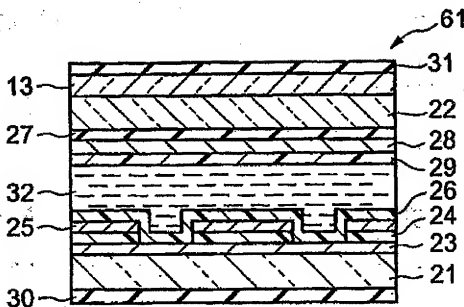
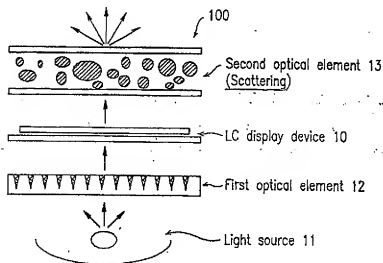


Fig. 6

The patent to Okamoto discloses a structure as shown in the following figure; however, the patent fails to recite the added limitation in amended claim 1 as will be explained.



The Kubo et al patent discloses a transreflective LC display device also used for portable appliances; however, this reference also fails to teach the added limitation in amended claim 1.

The patents to Okamoto et al and Kubo et al, standing alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest the limitation “wherein said liquid crystal panel has a pair of glass substrates sandwiching a liquid crystal layer and polarizer arranged on each glass substrate, wherein said diffusing optical element is arranged between one glass substrate and said polarizer arranged on said one glass substrate” as recited in the amended claim 1. Accordingly, the invention can not be obtained by means of combination of the cited references.

Under MPEP 2143, to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the prior art reference (or reference when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Since the cited references do not teach the above-quoted limitation of the amended claim 1, the Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 should be allowed. Claims 2 and 4 should also be allowed, at least by virtue of their dependency from the claim 1. Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is requested that the 35 USC 103 rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn. The pending application should be in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited.

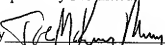
Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: Monday, November 26, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Joe McKinney Murley

Registration No.: 32,334

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant